

Attorney Docket No. 71 1890-0019

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT application of )  
 Martin CALDWELL et al. ) Group Art Unit: 3731  
 Application No. 09/936,723 )  
 Filed: March 1, 2002 ) Examiner: Paul Roberts  
 Confirmation No. 1585 )  
 For: A SURGICAL ACCESS DEVICE ) Confirmation No.: 1585

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Angelique Graham

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop AF  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment is in response to the final Office Action dated April 19, 2004, in connection with the above-identified patent application. In response and in accordance with Rule 1.116 of the Rules of Practice, please consider the following amendments and remarks for the purpose of allowance, or in the alternative, to narrow the issues on Appeal.

Please consider the following amendments and remarks.